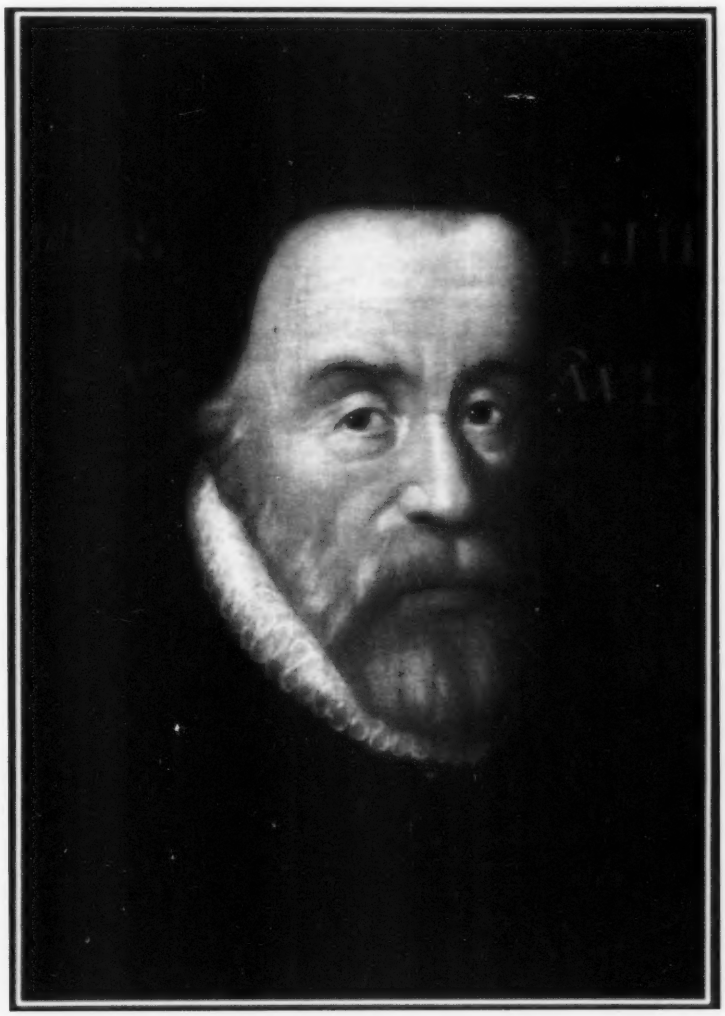
Library of Congress

INFORMATION BULLETIN

Vol. 56, No. 12 Issued Monthly July 1997



'Let There Be Light'

Library of Congress

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Vol. 56, No. 12
July 1997

JAMES H. BILLINGTON
Librarian of Congress

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On the Cover: William Tyndale, detail from the portrait in Hertford College, Oxford. *Reproduced by permission of the principal, fellows and scholars of Hertford College, Oxford.*

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The *Library of Congress Information Bulletin* is issued monthly by the Public Affairs Office of the Library of Congress and distributed free of charge to publicly supported libraries and research institutions, academic libraries, learned societies, and allied organizations in the United States. It is also available over the Internet. On World Wide Web, use the following addresses: http://www.loc.gov/loc/lcib (issues 1997 and on). For issues before 1997, connect to marvel.loc.gov and look under "Events, Facilities, Publications, and Services" or use this address: gopher://marvel.loc.gov/11/loc/pubs/lcib.

Comparable institutions and organizations in other countries may arrange to receive the *Bulletin* on an exchange basis by applying in writing to the Library's Exchange and Gift Division. All other correspondence should be addressed to the LC *Information Bulletin*, Public Affairs Office, Library of Congress, 101 Independence Avenue SE, Washington DC 20540-1610, email lcib@loc.gov.

GUY LAMOLINARA, Editor
JOHN H. SAYERS, Production

The Big Picture

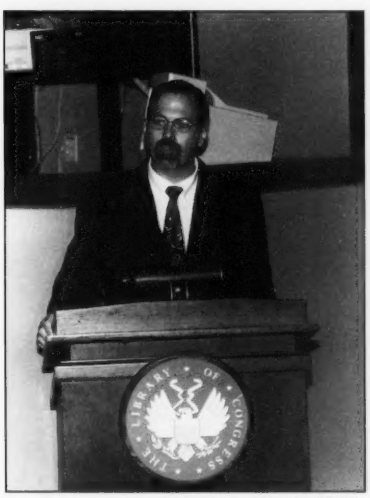
Library Makes Panoramic Maps Available On-Line

The Library is making available on the Internet detailed American panoramic maps from its collections, thanks to a gift from LizardTech, which has donated special software.

The maps are a part of American Memory, the Library's electronic collections of some of its most important materials, available at http://www.loc.gov/.

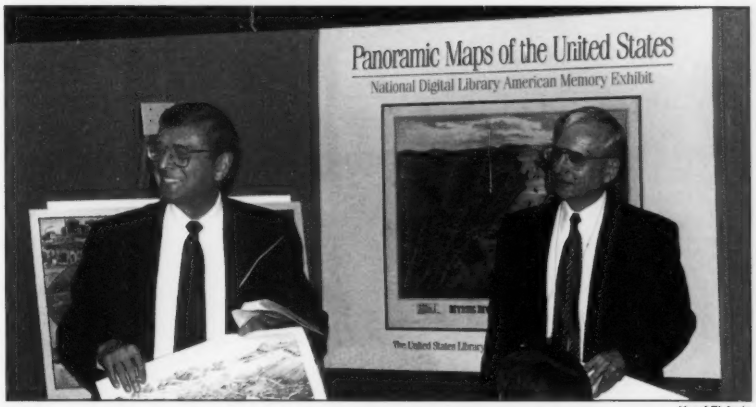
"Due to the generosity of LizardTech, the Library's National Digital Library Program is reaching another milestone: making available some of its most important and detailed maps to Americans everywhere via the Internet," said James H. Billington, the Librarian of Congress. "This donation will allow users to view their cities and towns as they looked during the late 19th and early 20th centuries."

"The Library of Congress's use of the LizardTech software is another successful example of technology transfer from our national laboratories. These transfers enable the public and private partnerships that provide additional returns to the nation," Sen. Pete Domenici (R-N.M.) said. "This collection of maps will greatly enhance the offerings from the National Digital Library Program, which is bringing the riches of the Library to all Americans."



Yusef El-Amin

John Deal, whose company, LizardTech, donated the software that enabled the Library to put detailed maps on the Internet.



Yusef El-Amin

Ralph Ehrenberg (right), chief of the Geography and Map Division, gave Sen. Pete Domenici (R-N.M.) a facsimile of one of the New Mexico maps now available from the on-line Panoramic Maps collection.

This new collection from the Library's site on the World Wide Web is made possible in part through the donation of a file-compression technology developed by LizardTech of Santa Fe, N.M., and Seattle. The presentation of detailed maps on-line, once highly impractical due to the very large size of their digital files, is now possible with the technology that reduces the size of massive map files by more than 20 times. Users can access these maps on the World Wide Web to view the entire image or zoom in for greater detail. No special software is necessary to view these maps.

"LizardTech is particularly proud to be involved in this effort. The MrSID software and the Center for Geographic Information are both the result of a historic collaboration between government and industry that provides the nation access to its heritage and the opportunity to explore that legacy using the Internet," said John R. Grizz Deal, president of LizardTech.

The donation of the file-compression technology is the latest gift received by the Geography and Map Division through its Center for Geographic Information, an alliance with private sector industries that are working to develop a vast array of new geographic technologies. The large-format, flatbed scanner that is used to digitize the maps, for example, was donated by Tangent Color Systems; Hewlett Packard gave the computer equipment that is used to process the map images so that they can be displayed.

The compression of these very large files is made possible by the use of Multiresolution Seamless Image Database (MrSID) software, which was invented at Los Alamos National Laboratory. Sen. Domenici sponsored federal technology transfer legislation in 1989 that enabled partnerships between national laboratories and U.S. industry. LizardTech has used this and other legislation to develop private sector commercial uses for this technology.

"During the first century of the existence of the Geography and Map Division, access to our maps was limited to the few who could visit our reading room or afford photo reproductions," said Ralph Ehrenberg, chief of the Library's Geography and Map Division. "We begin our second

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New On-Line Collections Debut

NDL Offerings Include California, Entertainment Collections

Several on-line collections from the Library of Congress are now available as part of the American Memory (http://www.loc.gov) collections. The new collections and collection "previews" are:

- "California as I Saw It: First-Person Narratives of California's Early Years, 1849-1900." Offers 190 books documenting the Gold Rush and the decades of early statehood that followed through individual narratives about travel to and life in California.
- "California Gold: Northern California Folk Music from the '30s." A multiformat ethnographic field collection that includes sound recordings, still photos, drawings and written documents from a variety of European ethnic and English- and Spanish-speaking communities in Northern California.
- "The New Deal Stage: Selections from the Federal Theatre Project, 1935-1939." Playscripts, production materials, photographs, and administrative records selected from the output of a New Deal WPA arts project. Additional materials to be added to this on-line collection.
- "Inventing Entertainment: Turn-of-the-Century Motion Pictures and Sound Recordings from the Thomas A. Edison Companies." This is a preview of a collection of early films and recordings from the company formed by the man who invented the phonograph.

The National Digital Library Program of the Library of Congress will offer on the Internet millions of items from the Library's collections by the year 2000, the bicentenary of the Library. Already available are tens of thousands of photographs, including those by Mathew Brady of the Civil War; documents relating to slavery, the civil rights movement and women's suffrage; early motion pictures, including those from Thomas Edison's studio; and sound recordings of prominent Americans.

In 1996-1997, several publications, including *Time, USA Today,* and *Family PC,* named the Library's Web site as one of the best. *Time* called American Memory "a treasure trove of memorabilia."

Maps
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century with the prospect of making our historic collections available to anyone through the World Wide Web."

The Geography and Map Division, the largest in the world, comprises a collection of 4.5 million maps and 60,000 atlases.

LizardTech, formed in 1992, is a private company focused on publishing innovative software that allows users of all levels easy access to digital images and multimedia content. LizardTech is a spin-off of Los Alamos National Laboratory; it is based in Santa Fe and Seattle.

Virginia Declaration to Go on View

Document Was Basis for Declaration of Independence

One of the seminal documents in American history, George Mason's Virginia Declaration of Rights, will go on display Aug. 7 in the "American Treasures of the Library of Congress" exhibition.

The Virginia Declaration of Rights was written in May 1776 and is considered the basis for the Declaration of Independence, the French Declaration of the Rights of Man and the Bill of Rights. In the Virginia Declaration of Rights, George Mason (1725-1792) called for American independence to preserve Americans' fundamental rights. He presented the Declaration to the Virginia Convention, which unanimously adopted it on June 12, 1776, in Williamsburg after amendments by Thomas Ludwell Lee (c. 1730-1777).

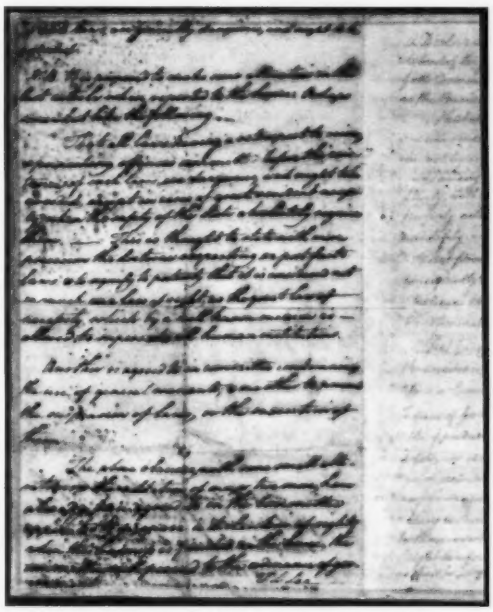
The Virginia Declaration will replace Thomas Jefferson's "original rough draught" of the Declaration of Independence in the exhibition. Both documents are fragile and light sensitive; therefore, the Library is able to display them for only limited periods of time under tight environmental controls.

A specially designed case — unique in the world — was custom-built to house these and other precious documents. It weighs 3 tons, and stands 10 feet high and 12 feet long. Built according to the highest standards of preservation and security, it is reserved exclusively for the Library's rarest and most valuable items.

"With these rotating treasures on display, the American public will be able to view many of the original manuscripts that shaped United States history," said Dr. Billington.

The original rough draft of the Declaration of Independence has been the centerpiece of the permanent, rotating "American Treasures" exhibition since it opened May 1. It will continue to be displayed through July 31. The Virginia Declaration of Rights will be on view Aug. 7 through Oct. 31, when it will be replaced by another important historical document.

Thomas Jefferson may have received a copy of the Virginia Declaration of Rights directly from Mason and Lee, his fellow Virginia planters and revolutionaries. Jefferson drew extensively from the Declaration of Rights, as well as from his own drafts of a new constitution for Virginia, when composing the Declaration of Independence in June 1776.



George Mason's Virginia Declaration of Rights, part of the "American Treasures of the Library of Congress" exhibition.

For example, the Virginia Declaration of Rights proposes "that all men are born equally free and independant [sic], and have certain inherent natural Rights ... among which are the Enjoyment of Life and Liberty, with the Means of acquiring and possessing property, and pursueing [sic] and obtaining Happiness and Safety."

The Declaration of Independence states "... that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their creator with certain inalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness."

Mason's draft, which included several clauses added by Lee, was used by James Madison in preparing the first 10 amendments to the U.S. Constitution, known as the Bill of Rights, and by the Marquis de Lafayette in drafting the French Declaration of the Rights of Man.

Also newly on display in the top treasures case will be:

- Madison's copy of the Bill of Rights, printed in New York in 1789,
- Lafayette's copy of France's Declaration of the Rights of Man presented to Thomas Jefferson in July 1789,
- the Fairfax County Resolves of 1774, a bold statement of fundamental constitutional rights and a call for action written by Mason and George Washington on July 17, 1774, in protest of Britain's harsh retaliation against the colony of Massachusetts following the Boston Tea Party.

Other items on display beginning Aug. 7 include:

- a 1789 letter from Thomas Jefferson ordering portraits from painter John Trumbull of Francis Bacon, John Locke and Isaac Newton, "the three greatest men that have ever lived," and
- a 1791 letter to French philosopher Marquis de Condorcet praising the mathematical abilities of Benjamin Banneker, a free Maryland black, and stating, "... the want of talents observed in [blacks] is merely the effect of their degraded condition, and not proceeding from any difference."

The "American Treasures" exhibition assembles for the first time the rarest and most significant items from the Library's collections relating to America's past drawn from every corner of the world's largest library. It is the Library's first permanent exhibition.

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Film Foundation Holds First Meeting

New Preservation Foundation Meets at Library

On June 9, Dr. Billington hosted the founding meeting of the board of directors of the National Film Preservation Foundation in the Librarian's Ceremonial Office in the Jefferson Building. The foundation (not to be confused with the Library of Congress National Film Preservation Board) was established by Congress under Public Law 104-285, which was signed into law by President Clinton on Oct. 11, 1996.

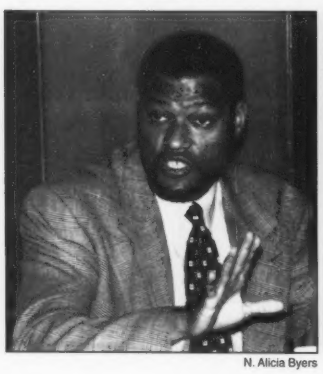
The purpose of the new independent, nonprofit foundation is to raise private funds and distribute grants to support the preservation of motion pictures produced in America during the past century, particularly those films not controlled by Hollywood studios or other corporate interests, such as documentaries, films of regional interest, silent and public domain films, and independent films produced by or documenting minority groups. Archives and libraries engaged in film preservation across the nation, including the Library of Congress, will be eligible for grants from the foundation.

Dr. Billington welcomed the new board members and announced that Roger Mayer had agreed to serve as the board's first chairman. Mr. Mayer is president and chief operating officer of the Turner Entertainment Co.

In accordance with the enabling legislation, the board of directors was chosen by the Librarian, who also holds an ex-officio position on the board. The new board members were selected based on their interest in film preservation and willingness to work actively on behalf of the foundation's fund-raising efforts. The nine members are: Celeste Bartos, Museum of Modern Art Trustee Committee on Film and Video; John Cooke, executive vice president, Corporate Affairs, the Walt Disney Co.; actor-producer Laurence Fishburne; Ann Dibble Jordan, member/director of various corporate boards; Roger Mayer (chair); David W. Packard of the Stanford Theatre and David & Lucile Packard foundations; John Ptak, Creative Artists Agency; Martin Scorsese, filmmaker and president of the Film Foundation "Filmmakers for Film Preservation"; and Alan K. Simpson, former U.S. senator from Wyoming.

N. Alicia Byers

Dr. Billington, Celeste Bartos of the Museum of Modern Art Trustee Committee on Film and Video and filmmaker Martin Scorsese; actor/producer Laurence Fishburne; actor Roddy McDowall of the National Film Preservation Board with Dr. Billington.



N. Alicia Byers

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Establishment of the new private sector foundation is widely considered the most promising development in film preservation in many years. Its success, however, will depend on fund-raising in the private sector and cooperation from all sectors of the film community. Beginning in 1999, the foundation will become eligible to receive limited congressional appropriations to match funds raised from private sources, which could then be distributed via grants to nonprofit institutions. Under the legislation, all administrative/operating expenses for the foundation must come from privately raised funds and not federal dollars. In keeping with congressional wishes, the foundation will also be a lean, mission-driven organization with minimal administrative expenses.

The foundation is in the initial stages of devising an operational plan, which will set fund-raising strategies and other priorities. Up-to-date information on foundation activities can be found at its Web site: http://lcweb.loc.gov/film/nfpf.html or by contacting Eric Schwartz, acting executive director for the foundation, at (202) 833-4198.

The Library of Congress is the nation's leading publicly funded film preservation institution. Congress recognized the Library's leadership in 1989 when it created the National Film Preservation Board to promote public awareness of the need to preserve movies of the past. More than 50 percent of the original production elements (negatives, soundtracks, etc.) for all American movies produced before 1951 have been lost due to deterioration and neglect. And, for films of the silent era produced before 1920, the loss rate exceeds 80 percent.

Pope John Paul Receives Library Delegation

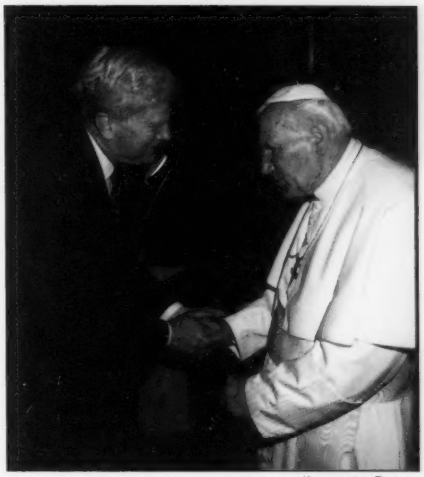
Librarian, James Madison Council Visit Vatican

Pope John Paul II received Dr. Billington and the James Madison Council, the private sector advisory group to the Library, in a private audience on May 23.

The pope thanked the council "for its very successful sponsorship of 'Rome Reborn,' an unprecedented exhibition of Vatican treasures" on view at the Library in 1993. He also said that "the patrimony of human thought, cultural achievement and religious truth contained in the world's libraries is not only a monument to past human endeavor; it is the solid ground on which each new generation can strive to build a better future. To ignore this treasure would be for humanity to condemn itself to existing and working in a wasteland. Our own age particularly needs to recover the accumulated wisdom of the past."

Pope John Paul added: "You are particularly interested in ensuring that the uplifting and instructive record of human experience is made available in the new communications media. Herein lies an important dimension of your interest in the Vatican Apostolic Library, which has benefited in the past from the technical assistance of the Library of Congress," which, from 1927 to 1939, helped the Vatican Library catalog its collections.

The Librarian thanked the pope and reminded him of the long-standing ties between the Vatican and the Library of Congress. John Kluge, chairman of the Madison Council, presented Pope John Paul with a facsimile of a 19th century Polish atlas.



L'osservatore Romano

Pope John Paul greets Dr. Billington at the Vatican.

Virginia

Continued from page 245

A unique selection of rare books, music, manuscripts, maps, photographs, drawings, audio selections and video clips gives visitors a first-hand look at a cross section of the vast repository that has been called "America's Memory." Highlights of the exhibition include the first extant book printed in America, early baseball cards, the contents of Lincoln's pockets on the night of his assassination, and a photograph of the Wright brothers' first flight taken at the instant of takeoff.

The exhibition displays 240 items arranged in the manner of Jefferson's own library, the seed from which the present Library of Congress collections grew. It was ordered: Memory (History); Reason (Philosophy, including Law, Science and Geography); and Imagination (Fine Arts, including Architecture, Music, Literature and the Leisure Arts).

Harry N. Abrams Inc. has published a companion volume with an introduction by Pulitzer Prize-winning author Garry Wills and a foreword by Dr. Billington. *American Treasures in the Library of Congress: Memory/Reason/Imagination* ($39.95) is available in the Library sales shops and wherever books are sold. Select items from the exhibition are also available on-line at http://www.loc.gov/exhibits/.

The exhibition, made possible by a grant of $1.1 million from the Xerox Foundation, is the set piece of a year-long celebration marking the official reopening of the Library's Thomas Jefferson Building during its 100th anniversary year. The Jefferson Building, under renovation since 1984, may now be seen in its fully restored state for the first time.

The Thomas Jefferson Building is at 10 First Street S.E. It is closed on Sundays and federal holidays. Exhibition hours are Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Due to the high number of visitors, same-day, timed-entry tickets are available free. The tickets may be obtained from 10 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. at the Visitors' Information Desk inside the ground-floor entrance of the Thomas Jefferson Building, which is barrier-free and accessible to the disabled, as is the exhibition.

Advance tickets for the exhibition may be obtained only from Ticketmaster. At Ticketmaster outlets, including Hecht's department stores in the Washington-Baltimore area, tickets are available for a $2 service charge. Ticketmaster phone charge tickets are $2.75 plus a $1.25 handling fee per order. To charge tickets by phone, call (202) 432-SEAT in Washington, D.C.; (410) 481-SEAT in Baltimore; and (703) 573-SEAT in Virginia. Out-of-state callers may dial (800) 551-SEAT toll-free.

An audio tour, available for $2.50 and featuring selections from the audio-visual holdings of the Library, will enrich the visitor's experience with an array of memories. For example, listeners can hear both narration about and the actual voices of presidents, poets and other famous figures from the Library's audio collections, including Theodore Roosevelt, Robert Frost and Woodrow Wilson. It also features music, including the voices of Beverly Sills and Jelly Roll Morton.

All groups of 10 or more are requested to call the Visitor Services Office at (202) 707-9779 to arrange a tour. For recorded information about the exhibition, call (202) 707-3834, (202) 707-6200 TTY.

A Royal Audience

Prince Philip Tours William Tyndale Exhibition

Prince Philip, husband of Queen Elizabeth II of the United Kingdom, visited the new "Let There Be Light" exhibition on June 6.

Dr. Billington greeted the prince at the West Front entrance of the Jefferson building about 4 p.m. and escorted him into the Great Hall. Accompanying Prince Philip were Brian Lang, deputy chairman and chief executive of the British Library; Roy Sully, head of development for the British Library; David Daniell, exhibition curator; and Sir John Kerr, British ambassador.

As Dr. Billington pointed out the architectural highlights of the Great Hall, the prince spoke to a visiting middle school student from Iowa who was standing in a crowd of onlookers.

Prince Philip seemed absorbed in the exhibition, "Let There Be Light: William Tyndale and the Making of the English Bible" (see story on page 249). Curator David Daniell highlighted particular objects and answered his questions. The prince "was very interested and asked a lot of questions about the translations," said Thomas Noonan of the Rare Book and Special Collections Division, who also accompanied the prince through the exhibition.

After the tour, the group went into the Librarian's Ceremonial Office, where Prince Philip saw various rare items from the Library's collections. Mr. Noonan and manuscript historian Marvin Kranz displayed and explained a 1595 English spy map, an engraving that was the first representation of an American city and a letter to Thomas Jefferson from John Adams about George III's kindness to him in England.

The prince was served tea, with which "he took with lots of cream," according to a staffer, cucumber sandwiches, smoked salmon on pumpernickel, chicken salad and cookies.

Learning that Josephus Nelson, a research specialist in the Library's Development Office, had studied at Oxford University, Prince Philip asked him about his studies and his position at the Library.

Taking time to chat with exhibition coordinator Carroll Johnson, the prince learned about other Library exhibitions. "He was very surprised and impressed that the Library had these exhibits. I think if he had had time, he would have liked to see all of them," Ms. Johnson said.

As the prince was leaving, he asked a visitor to the Library: "Did you find your book?"

— Hannah Wong

Ms. Wong is an intern in the Public Affairs Office.

N. Alicia Byers

N. Alicia Byers

Dr. Billington greets Prince Philip outside the Jefferson Building; following an inspection of the William Tyndale exhibition, Dr. Billington invites the Duke of Edinburgh to sign the visitors' registry.

'Let There Be Light'

Exhibition Spotlights William Tyndale, English Martyr

By Gail Fineberg

A small but intriguing exhibition at the Library tells a story of a 16th century scholar, linguist and priest who died a martyr. The story is one of political intrigue and betrayal, the power of the Word to survive book burners and the capacity of the printing press to terrify monarchs and clerics.

At the heart of the North Great Hall Gallery exhibition (first floor, Thomas Jefferson Building) are two copies of a pocket-size, 1526 edition of the New Testament, the first to be printed in English — not in King Henry VIII's England, but covertly in Germany. Regarded as a threat to the Roman Catholic Church and the throne, William Tyndale's New Testament — "The Tyndale Bible"— survived the book burners, but he did not.

Hunted on the Continent, betrayed by an Englishman for pay and condemned to die a heretic, Tyndale was tied to a stake, strangled with a rope and torched outside a castle near Brussels on Oct. 6, 1536.

His crime: Translating the scriptures from Greek and Hebrew into vernacular English so that commoners could read the Bible for themselves, rather than having to depend on the church hierarchy to interpret the official Latin Vulgate.

Grounded in rhetoric and classical studies at Oxford, skilled in eight languages and driven by his faith in New Testament theology and desire to "cause a boy that driveth the plough to know more of the Scriptures," Tyndale was an unsurpassed translator, according to his biographer and the exhibition curator, David Daniell.

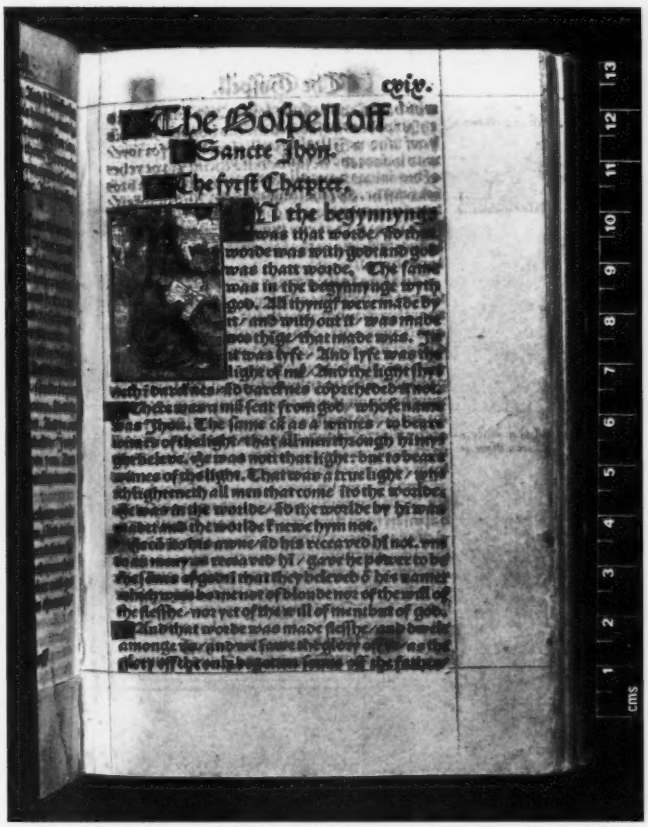
"For him, an English translation of the Bible had to be as accurate to the original languages, Greek and Hebrew, as scholarship could make it; and it had to make sense," Mr. Daniell said in the introduction to his book *William Tyndale: A Biography* (Yale University Press, 1994).

Not only did Tyndale's translations survive the book burners, but they live today as some of the most often-quoted words in the English language: "Let there be light" (Genesis 1:3), "And the truth shall make you free" (John 8:32), "Am I my brother's keeper?" (Genesis 4:9), "Let my people go" (Exodus 5:1), as well as "eat, drink and be merry," "the powers that be," "signs of the times."

So careful and so accurate were Tyndale's translations of the Hebrew scriptures, including the Pentateuch, which comprises the first five books of the Bible (1530), and the New Testament from the Greek (printed in 1526 and revised in 1534), that they served as the bases for much of the "authorized" King James version of the Bible published in 1611.

Said Mr. Daniell in a paper delivered at a June 4 opening reception at the Library: "I was recently in the state of Utah [at Brigham Young University], where a student who is a clever man with a computer gave me at last the definitive figure for how dependent the King James [New Testament] is on Tyndale, and I am happy to announce tonight that the definitive figure is 83 percent. Eighty-three percent of the King James Bible is Tyndale exactly."

According to Mr. Daniell's introduction to the biography, Tyndale as a Reformation theologian "has been at best neglected and at worst twisted out of shape." As a "conscious craftsman" and wordsmith with an ear for



The first page of "The Gospell off Sancte Jhon" from Tyndale's Worms New Testament (1526), with the familiar "In the begynnynge was that worde/and that worde was with god; and god was thatt worde." *Reproduced by permission of the British Library.*

the rhythm and poetry of the English language, Mr. Daniell said, Tyndale has "not just been neglected but denied."

Mr. Daniell suggested that the British Library mount the Tyndale exhibition. "Let There Be Light: William Tyndale and the Making of the English Bible" opened in the British Library in September 1994. Visitors saw the exhibition at the Huntington Library in San Marino, Calif., and the New York Public Library. The exhibition's last stop is the Library of Congress, where it will remain until Sept. 6.

One of the Library's first visitors to the Tyndale exhibition was His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh, Prince Philip of Great Britain, whom Dr. Billington and LC staff welcomed Friday afternoon, June 6 (see story on page 248).

Reformation History

Two hundred years of Reformation history come to life in narratives provided by the Tyndale exhibition. The cases hold 40 items of the Reformation from LC and the British Library.

This is their story: Between 1,000 B.C. and A.D. 100, there were 66 books of the Bible, written in Hebrew (with some Aramaic) and in Greek. The originals were largely forgotten after the fourth century, when Jerome translated them into Latin. The Latin Vulgate was the standard Bible for nearly 1,000 years.

By 1378 John Wyclif, master of Balliol College, Oxford, was attacking the Roman Catholic Church systematically, and during the 1380s he made two translations of the Vulgate into English. Alarmed at the spread of Wyclif's ideas and translations, Archbishop of Canterbury Thomas Arundel in 1408 held a council at Oxford, which decreed that the Bible should be neither translated into English nor read in English.

Detail from the title page of William Tyndale's *Obedience of a Christen Man* (1528)

This rule was in force while Tyndale was studying at Oxford (1506 to at least 1515) and translating during the 1520s-'30s. However, the Bible already was translated from the Latin and circulated on the Continent in six vernacular languages. In 1522 Martin Luther's German translation of the New Testament from the Greek sold so quickly it was printed twice. Sometime during this period, Tyndale translated the humanist scholar Desiderius Erasmus's work, *Enchiridion militis christiani*, which challenged the Latin Vulgate.

Failing to win the support of Cuthbert Tunstall, Bishop of London, for an English Bible translation, Tyndale arranged with Cologne printer Peter Quentell to print his New Testament in 1525. Drunken printers leaked word to a Catholic writer, whose information reached King Henry VIII and Cardinal Wolsey, the pope's agent who orchestrated attacks on Lutherans and other reformers until Wolsey's fall in 1530. A raid on the Cologne print shop stopped the presses at Matthew 22, but Tyndale fled up the Rhine. The exhibition includes a fragment of the 1525 translation from the British Library's collections.

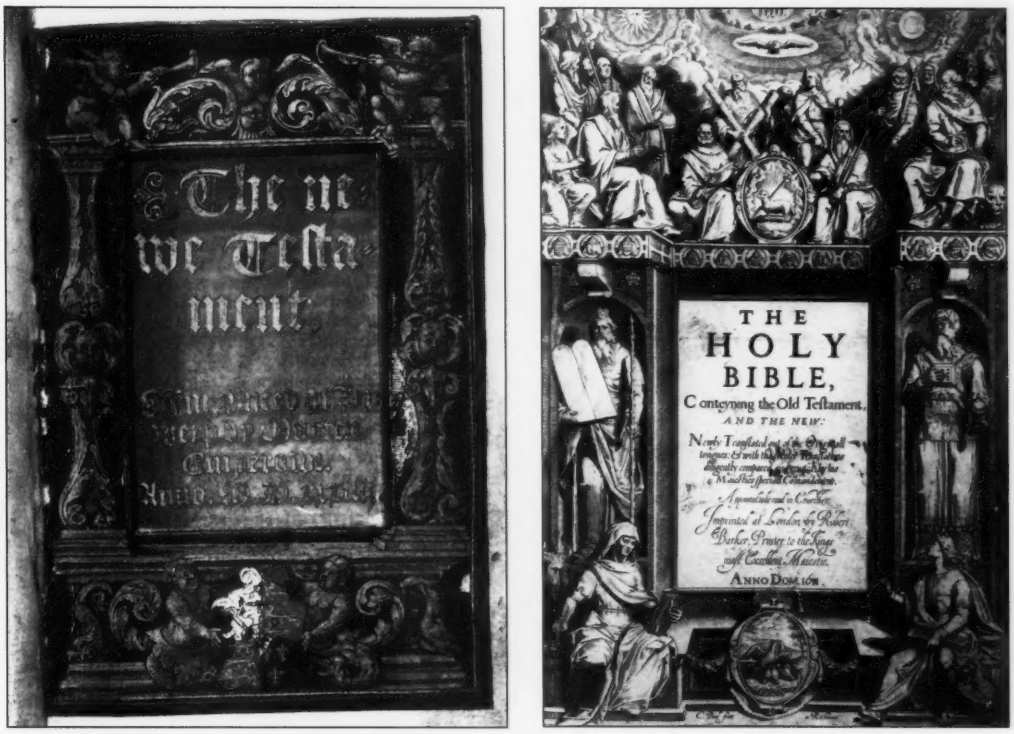
Engraving of St. Matthew from the "Cologne Fragment," the only known fragment of the uncompleted edition of William Tyndale's translation of the New Testament published in Cologne, 1525. *Reproduced by permission of the British Library.*

One year later, Tyndale finished the New Testament translation in Worms. Mr. Daniell said he believes as many as 6,000 copies of the 1526 edition may have been printed, hidden in bales of cloth, shipped down the Rhine and smuggled into southeastern England. "I think many of them were read to pieces," Mr. Daniell said. Only three known copies remain.

When the Tyndale exhibition opened in 1994, the British Library claimed the only textually complete copy of Tyndale's 1526 New Testament; the title page was missing. St. Paul's Cathedral holds a copy with 71 leaves missing. A third "Stuttgart Copy," included in the exhibition at the Library, was discovered in November 1996, during a Württemberg State Library project to create on-line records for 16th century holdings. The binding was stamped 1557, but a library employee took the book off the shelf and opened it to discover Tyndale's 1526 copy.

"I always suspected more would be found, so I was not surprised," Mr. Daniell said.

Columbia University Professor David Scott Kastan, who delivered a paper at the Library's June 4 reception, said King Henry VIII condemned Tyndale's translation and ordered "'said corrupt and untrue translations to be burned with further sharp correc-



"The Newe Testament, dylygently corrected and compared with the Greke by Willyan Tindale. Antwerp, 1534." Anne Boleyn's personal copy of the English New Testament, featuring her coat of arms at the bottom. *Reproduced by permission of the British Library.*; title page of the first edition of "The Authorized Version" (or King James Bible) of 1611. When the British crown finally allowed a translation of the Bible into English, it drew heavily on Tyndale's earlier translation. The Kings James Bible has had an enormous influence on English literature and religion since its publication.

tion and punishment against the keepers and readers of the same.'"

"However, the four-shilling Bibles reached an eager audience whose desire for the scriptures had been left unsatisfied by the government's failed policy of censorship and repression. 'The noyse of the new Bible,' in Tyndale's fine phrase, echoed throughout the country," Mr. Kastan said.

Shocked by the burning of his New Testament and stung by Sir Thomas More's attacks (Henry's chancellor called Tyndale a "beast" and a "hell-hound in the kennel of the devil"), Tyndale wrote sharply against Church corruption and abuses, which had escalated, under Bishop of London John Stokesly, to the burning alive of men and women condemned as heretics. In addition to several short works published in Antwerp, Belgium, Tyndale also translated the first five books of the Bible from Hebrew and Aramaic in 1530 and revised his New Testament in 1534 (Anne Boleyn's copy is in the exhibition).

Needing a divorce from Queen Catherine of Aragon so he could marry Anne Boleyn, King Henry broke from the Roman Catholic Church. They were wed secretly in 1533, and the following year Parliament passed the Act of Supremacy (from the LC collections), declaring that the king was the supreme head of the Church of England. In *The Practice of Prelates* (1530), Tyndale had argued that Henry could not lawfully obtain a divorce; the book angered the king. Nonetheless, through Thomas Cromwell, Henry offered Tyndale safe-conduct home to London in 1531; Tyndale declined. The exhibition includes items relating to these events.

Four years later, Tyndale was betrayed by Henry Phillips in Antwerp and arrested. Before he was executed in 1536 in front of a gathering of secular and clerical authorities, Tyndale was imprisoned for 16 months in the castle of Vilvoorde near Brussels. The exhibition includes a letter (from the British Library), written in his cell, in which he pleads for "winter comforts" — a warm cap, a new coat, a lamp — and his Hebrew Bible, grammar and dictionary.

— Ms. Fineberg is editor of The Gazette, *the Library's staff newspaper.*

"Let There Be Light: William Tyndale and the Making of the English Bible" is on view from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Saturday, through Sept. 6 in the Jefferson Building.

'Courage and Genius'

Tyndale Responsible for Most of King James Translation

David Daniell announced at the Library on June 4 that "83 percent of the King James New Testament is Tyndale exactly." Although it was known that Tyndale's English translations of the Bible were the basis of the King James Bible, an exact percentage had not been determined, he said.

The King James Bible was authorized by the same government that 75 years earlier put Tyndale to death for translating the Bible into English. Only one year after Tyndale's death, England had changed its policy to allow the circulation of the complete English Bible (1535), by Tyndale's disciple Miles Coverdale.

Mr. Daniell, who is Tyndale's biographer, made the announcement at the Library of Congress opening of an exhibition he curated for the British Library, "Let There Be Light: William Tyndale and the Making of the English Bible." He attributed the figure to a student at Brigham Young University who compared the texts using a computer. "At last the definitive figure for how dependent the King James is on Tyndale," said Daniell, who learned of the percentage in January when he visited the college in Provo, Utah.

What Daniell and other scholars already knew was that "The New Testament ... was Tyndale's in vocabulary, syntax and the verbal cadence." Mr. Daniell, emeritus professor of English at the University of London, said Tyndale's translations had a profound influence on the English language in his talk, "William Tyndale: Courage and Genius Behind the English Bible."

"The words of the 1611 version of the King James Bible have gone around the world for nearly four centuries and are soaked into the work of many writers in English. Many simple elemental phrases in the King James Bible of 1611 can be felt to belong properly to the later years of Shakespeare, like, 'Work out your own salvation with fear and trembling,' 'It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God' and 'Behold I stand at the door and knock.'

N. Alicia Byers

David Daniell (right) describes the pocket-size design of the Tyndale Bibles to Prince Philip and Dr. Billington during the Prince's visit to the Library's exhibition "Let There Be Light."

"In all these phrases, the original New Testament Greek is immediately understandable to any English hearer or reader, with, as well, an uncanny directness. ... These phrases were made not in 1611, but early in the 1530s, when English was still a poorish language."

David Scott Kastan, professor of English and comparative literature at Columbia University, described Tyndale's time in history in an address titled "The Noyse of the New Bible: Religion and Politics in Henrician England.

"King Henry himself condemned the translation and determined the 'said corrupt and untrue translations to be burned with further sharp correction and punishment against the keepers and readers of the same.' However, the four-shilling Bibles reached an eager audience whose desire for the scriptures had been left unsatisfied by the government's failed policy of censorship and repression. 'The noyse of the new Bible,' in Tyndale's fine phrase, echoed throughout the country."

Dr. Billington welcomed an audience of about 100 people. "The Library of Congress is enormously pleased to be collaborating with our sister institution the British Library on this exhibition. ... The original interactive device is still the book, which fosters a train of thought rather than a bumper car of emotions. No book has had the impact of the book we are celebrating in this exhibition."

Said Brian Lang, chief executive of the British Library, "No computer terminal is ever going to evoke the words in the way Tyndale's printed work is able to do. ... There is nothing between us and what is on the page — until that is, I might put my spectacles on. We're delighted to share this with you."

John Y. Cole, director of the Center for the Book, acted as emcee for the program, which was sponsored by the Center for the Book in cooperation with the Interpretive Programs Office, the Folger Institute, the Folger Shakespeare Library and the Washington Collegium for the Humanities.

— *Yvonne French*

Ms. French is a public affairs specialist in the Public Affairs Office.

Cataloging Distribution Service Gets New Chief

Helping libraries improve access to information with cost-effective Library of Congress bibliographic products and services is a high priority for Peter R. Young.

Mr. Young, the former executive director of the U.S. National Commission on Libraries and Information Science (NCLIS) from 1990 to 1997 became chief of the Library's Cataloging Distribution Service (CDS) on June 2.

Associate Librarian for Library Services Winston Tabb said, "We are very fortunate to have a person as knowledgeable as Peter at the helm of CDS as it enters a new phase of service to the library and information communities." The new phase involves streamlining the 95-year-old division and moving it toward full cost-recovery status.

"I am excited to be returning to the Library, and I am very enthusiastic about returning to CDS at this critical time," Mr. Young said. In 1980-84, he was customer services officer for the division, and in 1984, he was assistant chief of the MARC Editorial Division. From 1985 to 1988, he served as chief of the Copyright Cataloging Division.

Previously, he directed public services for the Rice University libraries in Houston (1974-76) and administered operations of the municipal library system for Grand Rapids (Mich.) Public Library (1978).

"Fundamental changes in information technology have occurred in the past 20 years, and those changes are having a profound effect on libraries," he said. Mr. Young noted that during the first 60 years of the century, libraries depended upon LC's catalog cards for standardized collection access. Then, in the late 1960s, the rate of change accelerated. By 1968 the Library had developed Machine Readable Cataloging (MARC) and began distributing MARC records on tape. In 1988 many MARC records could be purchased from CDS on CD-ROM, and then in 1993, could be delivered on the Internet via file-transfer-protocol (FTP). Also in 1993, the Library made its on-line catalog available for public access via the Internet.

"I hope to help position CDS to take advantage of the tremendous opportunities that technology offers libraries for improving access to information. Positioning CDS within the emerging electronic information environment is consistent with LC's mission. Just as LC makes its resources available and useful to Congress and the American people, CDS helps improve information access through its products and services. Librarians in all types of libraries are teaching patrons how to locate and use information that may not be contained within the library's collections. CDS products and services can assist these new, technology-intensive library activities. Also, in light of recent emphasis on results-oriented services from federal agencies, CDS offers an opportunity to demonstrate both success and accountability to its customers and constituents," Mr. Young said.

Peter Young

As former executive director of NCLIS, Mr. Young is familiar with the key policy issues in library and information science. In that role, he provided support and direction for the commission, which is an independent executive branch federal agency established in 1970 with 16 members appointed by the president to advise the president and Congress on national policies relating to libraries and information services. On May 7 the commissioners unanimously adopted a resolution expressing "deep appreciation and strong admiration for [Mr. Young's] many valuable and noteworthy contributions."

New Phase of Service

Even before the new chief arrived, as early as 18 months ago, CDS's transition toward more effective operation was under way. The plan has involved staff reductions from 91 positions to 48. Staff members in affected positions have either been reassigned to other LC positions through the reduction-in-force process or have left through attrition. Significant technology-based changes are also part of the CDS transition, including transfer of the management information system for nearly 30,000 customers from mainframe to client/server technology.

Mr. Young succeeds CDS Chief Tyrone J. Mason, who retired Jan. 3, 1997, after serving 36 years at the Library — the final 19 months of which were as acting chief, then chief of CDS.

He received his A.B. degree in Liberal Arts (philosophy) from the College of Wooster (June 1966) and a master's degree in Library Science from Columbia University's School of Library Science (June 1968). He served as a film-library specialist with the 25th Infantry Division, U.S. Army (September 1968-September 1970) and was awarded three bronze star medals for meritorious achievement directing a Special Services Library in Cu Chi, Vietnam. An active member of the American Library Association, Mr. Young has served on committees of the Library Information Technology Association, Library Administration and Management Association, Resources and Technical Services Division and the Public Library Association. His many articles and speeches reflect a wide range of knowledge about the changing role of librarianship and the national information infrastructure, and this knowledge has been reflected in his keynote addresses and presentations.

— *Patricia Gray*

Ms. Gray is in the Cataloging Distribution Service.

Hong Kong: Past, Present, Future

Former Consul General Speaks at Exhibition Opening

Hong Kong's transfer this month from British to Chinese rule is not so bad as the Western press paints it, said participants in a Library symposium on Hong Kong history and culture on May 30.

"The last thing the Chinese want to do is take this glittering financial center and turn it into a garbage heap," said Burton Levin, U.S. consul general in Hong Kong from 1981 to 1986.

"If you read the Western media, they treat the changeover suspiciously. They say the bill of rights is being emasculated, a puppet governor is being installed, and that the Chinese will abolish the legislature and conduct a popular election. But the stock market is at a record high, property values are up, and the polls show growing confidence.

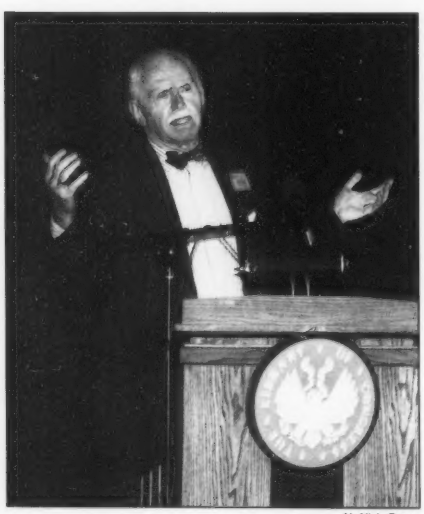
"The Chinese want a post-1997 Hong Kong that operates the way Hong Kong has always operated — a government run for the benefit of business, a club conducted for and by business," Mr. Levin added. Although most of the six speakers alluded to the July 1 change, Mr. Levin was the only one to discuss it in detail.

Marking the opening of the exhibition "Hong Kong: From Fishing Village to Financial Center," the symposium consisted of two panels. Prosser Gifford, director of the Office of Scholarly Programs, moderated the first panel on the history, economy and legal system of Hong Kong. Chi Wang, head of the Chinese Section, moderated the second panel on Hong Kong culture and society. Carolyn Brown, assistant librarian for Library Services, welcomed panelists and 250 guests. Helen Poe, chief of the Asian Division, offered closing remarks.

On the first panel, Elizabeth Sinn, chairman of Asian Studies at the University of Hong Kong, gave a historical sketch of Hong Kong Territory beginning before the 1841 colonization. "Hong Kong history did not begin in 1841, neither will it end in 1997," said Ms. Sinn. She traced the area's growth from 150 villages two centuries ago through the arrival of British merchants and missionaries who considered Hong Kong the portal to consumers and converts in mainland China. During the first Opium War (1839-1842) over the drug's trade, the British retreated from the Territory on the mainland to the island, which was ceded to them in 1841-1842. The first colonial governor immediately declared its biggest city, Victoria, a free port.

"Hong Kong's metamorphoses into a city was almost overnight. The harbor soon became one of the busiest in the world," said Ms. Sinn. She and other speakers stressed the role of the Cantonese in industrialization. "Manufacturing in Hong Kong was almost exclusively Chinese owned," said Ms. Sinn.

Jerome Cohen, a senior partner in the New York law firm of Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison, considered the judicial system, saying that the transfer wrought by a 1984 agreement between the United Kingdom and China created a federal system "with words that will require interpretation by the ... central government's supreme court. ... Over time the challenge will be whether the judiciary can withstand nepotism, personal advancement ... and the informal ways Chinese people best work."



N. Alicia Byers

Jerome Cohen makes a point about Hong Kong's judicial future.

On the second panel, James Watt, director of the Asian Art Department at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, described the sudden westernization of art in Hong Kong. "What transformed Hong Kong culture from a vibrant, healthy, local [scene] was the development of Hong Kong as a city and the disappearance of village life." In one instance, "in less than 20 years, what had been a living culture became [artifacts in] a museum of folk art."

Stanley Karnow, a journalist in Hong Kong for 15 years with *Time* and *Life* and other media outlets, talked about Hong Kong communities. He said there was a caste system. "Race was a defining factor. The poorest European benefited from privileges over the richest Chinese. ... The groups respected each other because they were both dedicated to making money," Mr. Karnow said, adding that colonial rule was pragmatic; it was composed of a "stable British administration and dynamic Chinese enterprise."

He said it was "unfortunate" that just as Hong Kong residents are "beginning to develop an identity they must swear allegiance to China and adopt a Chinese identity."

Helen Siu, an anthropology professor at Yale University, answered the question "Who are Hong Kongers?" They are "racially mixed expatriates and Chinese merchants. It is a multicultural society. In a word, Hong Kong has left the China orbit, both in terms of ideology and social reality, and turned to the world on her own almost by default."

The Hong Kong exhibition features 45 documents, books, maps, photographs and manuscripts and depicts, from an American perspective, the history, economy, culture, society and art of Hong Kong during the British colonial period.

A grant from the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office made the symposium and exhibition possible.

N. Alicia Byers

James Watt (left) and Stanley Karnow described Hong Kong's arts and cultural environment.

Speaking at the opening, Deputy Librarian Donald Scott thanked the Trade Office and said: "While the press speculates about the future of Hong Kong, the Library's Chinese collection documents how Hong Kong arrived at its present moment. We have over 800,000 volumes in a collection that started in 1869."

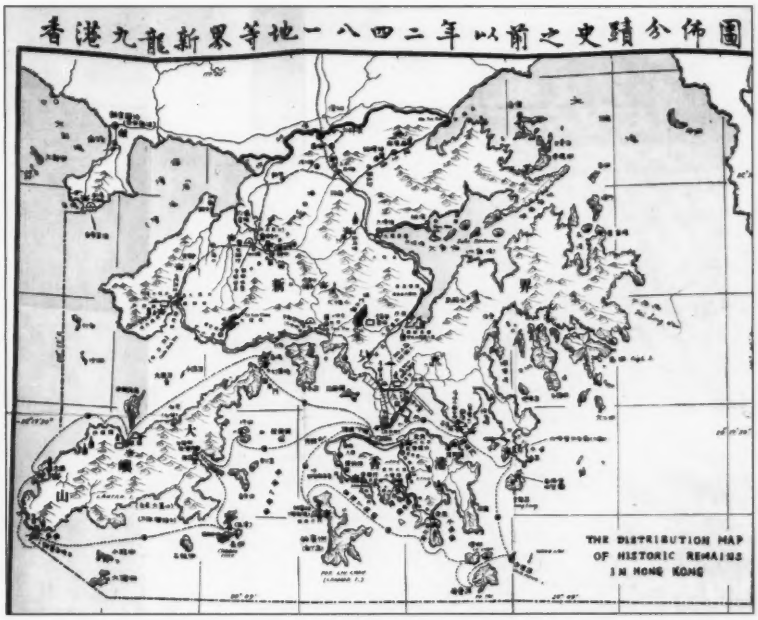
Kenneth Pang, Hong Kong commissioner to the United States, said: "We are honored to be working with you to show the American public the tremendous transformation that Hong Kong has made over the past 156 years and its promising future. 'From Fishing Village to Financial Center' presents a wonderful perspective and allows visitors the opportunity to get to know Hong Kong either for the first time or a little better."

The symposium and the exhibition opening, which concluded the Library's Asian Pacific American Heritage Month celebration, were timely and topical and provided a historical and cultural perspective on Hong Kong's changeover, which officially took place at midnight June 30.

— Yvonne French

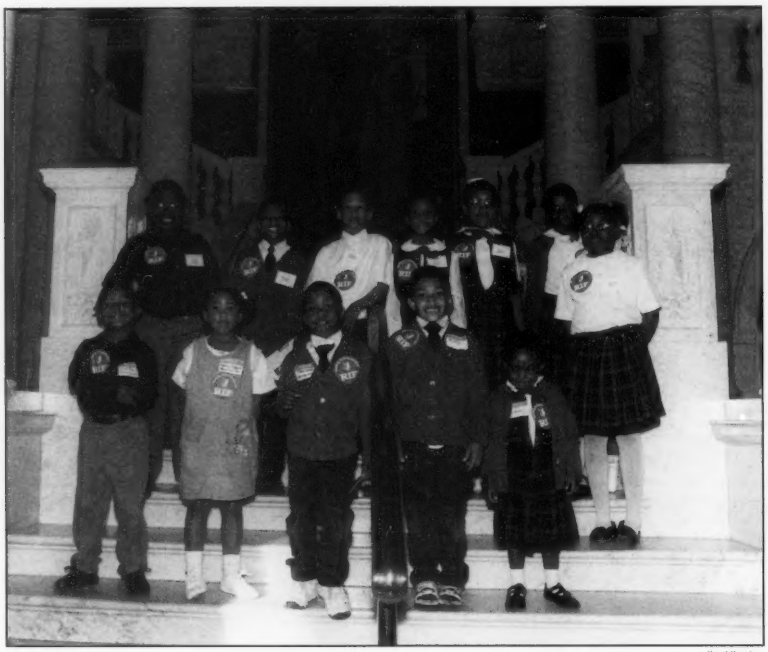
Ms. French is a public affairs specialist in the Public Affairs Office.

American diplomat Caleb Cushing's silk copy of the Treaty of Wang Hiya (Wanghsia), the first treaty between the United States and China, negotiated in 1844. The treaty, now on display at the Library, allowed for commercial trade between the United States and China, following Britain's lead – but without a struggle.



Distribution map of historic remains in Hong Kong (206 B.C.-1842), from *Hong Kong and Its External Communications before 1842*, by Lo Hsiang-Lin, part of the Library's exhibition "Hong Kong: From Fishing Village to Financial Center"

"Hong Kong: From Fishing Village to Financial Center" is on view in the foyer of the Madison Building , 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Monday through Friday and 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturdays, through November.



Jim Higgins

Washington, D.C., students were special guests of the "Reading Together" program held in the Jefferson Building.

Reading Together

Library Site for Live TV Show on Summer Reading

The U.S. Department of Education, in partnership with the Center for the Book, sponsored a live television show, "Reading Together: Families, Schools and Communities," about summer reading programs on May 20 from 8 p.m. to 9 p.m. in the Jefferson Building.

Richard W. Riley, secretary of education, and Carol H. Rasco, director of America Reads Challenge, hosted a panel of five representatives from local reading promotion organizations around the country. Nancy Mathis moderated and fielded questions for the panel that came from the viewing audience.

The television program is part of a series of "Satellite Town Meetings" produced by the Department of Education and distributed to more than 700 sites across the nation.

Guest panelists included Jack Batty, executive director of GE Elfun, a volunteer program run by the General Electric Corp. for its employees; Betty Breedlove, Title I coordinator for the Kansas City, Mo., school system; Peter Jensen, West Virginia University Extension Agent; Sandy Cahn, director of education for Teamworks of Shreveport, La.; and Mary Somerville, a librarian from the Miami-Dade Library of Miami and then president of the American Library Association.

Ms. Mathis opened the show by asking each participant to describe the reading program in which they were involved. Jack Batty told how General Electric allows its employees to assist teachers with reading programs in their local communities. Sandy Cahn described how the program she began in her synagogue has expanded into schools and other programs in Shreveport, while Mary Somerville told about the "Blast Off into Reading" program in Miami that includes rewarding children for reading with prizes such as coupons to visit museums or free pizza.

Peter Jensen described the "Energy Express Program" that he runs in Morgan County, W.Va. As the county agricultural extension agent, Mr. Jensen has integrated reading into a program that provides free breakfasts and lunches to underprivileged children.

Betty Breedlove told the audience that the mayor of her city, Kansas City, is actively involved in reading programs, to the point that he plans to open a summer reading camp in City Hall and personally serve as a volunteer "reading partner."

Ms. Mathis then accepted the first telephone call-in, a question from a viewer in Pensacola, Fla., who asked how to involve more fathers in reading promotion. Mr. Riley responded by noting that busy parents can make use of recorded tapes.

A short taped segment about a program in Houston followed. The "Houston Reads to Lead" program grew out of a program developed by

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New Publication on Pre-Meiji

Japanese Bibliography Includes Previously Unknown Works

The Library of Congress recently published *Pre-Meiji Works in the Library of Congress*, a bibliography of books in Japanese from the Library's Japanese Section. The bibliography contains works of literature, linguistics, drama and music dating from the early 17th century to 1867, the year before the Meiji Restoration.

The book's entries include some of the Library's most valuable Japanese works, including special pieces previously unknown to much of the general public and to many scholars.

Among the many rare items mentioned in the book is the Library's edition of the classic Japanese work *The Tale of Genji*, which is the only known complete set of that particular edition. Great works from the medieval period are also listed, such as a volume in *The Tale of the Heike* that indicates the way in which the text should be chanted during a performance, making it an extremely valuable item.

Illustration from the cover of the new bibliography *Pre-Meiji Works in the Library of Congress.*

There are also many volumes related to the art of the haiku poet Matsuo Basho (1644-1694), the most revered figure in early modern Japanese literature.

Containing 628 entries arranged alphabetically by their romanized titles, the bibliography also includes a glossary and name index. Each entry consists of an entry number, title, author and statement and is usually accompanied by an annotation.

The book was compiled by Shojo Honda, a former senior reference librarian in the Japanese Section from 1961 to 1992, and annotated by Jin'ichi Konishi, president emeritus of Tsukuba University and member of the Library's Council of Scholars.

Pre-Meiji Works in the Library of Congress is available for $16 and may be purchased from the U.S. Government Printing Office, Superintendent of Documents, P.O. Box 371954, Pittsburgh, PA 15250-7954. When ordering, cite stock number 030-001-00166-1. Credit card orders are taken via fax at (202) 512-2250.

Reading

Continued from page 256

Girl Scouts who acted as mentors for children. It has now expanded to include volunteers from local businesses working through AmeriCorps.

Jack Batty of G.E. said that the rewards flow both ways when businesses encourage employees to become involved in such programs. "It brings a new relationship into the lives of busy executives," he said, "and they find it very rewarding."

Sandy Cahn said that the rewards can be more tangible. The Shreveport program pays teenagers to become reading mentors, providing both a summer job program and a reading program to the community.

A previously taped segment about the Library of Congress was played, followed by a live interview with John Cole, director of the Center for the Book. Mr. Cole described the activities of his organization, founded in 1977. He told the audience that his small staff of four, supported by private funds, now works with a reading promotion network of 32 state affiliates and more than 80 national civic and educational organizations. "Building a Nation of Readers" is the center's national reading promotion theme for 1997-2000.

A young reading volunteer in the audience was interviewed, and the discussion then turned to the benefits of becoming a volunteer. Ms. Breedlove told how her program in Kansas City works with another organization dedicated to recruiting role models for children. She emphasized the importance of going where the children are, especially public libraries.

"When the parents come to pick up the children from the library, they can also pick up the literature about our program," she said.

A call-in question about how to serve children with special needs led to a discussion on this topic, with both Jack Batty and Carol Rasco noting the importance of a program from LC's National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped that supplies free tape-recorded, braille and large-print publications to people with disabilities through a network of regional and local libraries throughout the country.

Mr. Batty said that GE has recruited its retired engineers to help repair tape recorders that are loaned to individuals eligible for the program, while Ms. Breedlove reminded viewers that recorded books are not just for those with impaired sight; they can also be beneficial for retarded individuals who can't read on their own.

The program concluded with a checklist of things people can do to encourage reading, including the following:

- Read at least 30 minutes a day to your child.
- Become a partner in teaching someone to read.
- Learn at least one new vocabulary word each day.
- Get a library card.

A toll-free number was provided for further information: (800) USA-LEARN.

— *Craig D'Ooge*

Mr. D'Ooge is media director in the Public Affairs Office.

Yusef El-Amin

John Cole with (from left) Friends of Libraries USA officials Kathy Alikhan, Heather Cameron and Sandy Dolnick.

News from the Center for the Book

29 State Centers Meet at Library

Announcement of a new Connecticut state center, the awarding of $5,000 Boorstin Center for the Book awards to Florida and Nebraska, and a lively discussion of current and future reading promotion projects were highlights of the annual state center "idea exchange day" held at the Library on May 5. Twenty-nine state centers sent representatives or delegations; in all, 60 enthusiastic reader promoters from around the country participated in the May 5 conference and in follow-up meetings the next day.

"These annual meetings are both inspiring and extremely useful," said Center for the Book Director John Y. Cole. "The resourcefulness of our affiliated state centers never fails to amaze me. They are our grass-roots connection, and each year the national center learns a great deal from their discussions."

The new Connecticut Center for the Book is located at the Hartford Public Library. Chief Librarian Louise Blalock is serving as interim coordinator until the full advisory board has been named. On Aug. 15-17, the Connecticut Center for the Book will participate in Hartford's citywide International Mark Twain Days Celebration. It also will be part of the Second Annual Wallace Stevens Birthday Party on Oct. 3, which will begin with a marathon reading of Stevens's poems and essays and conclude with a dinner at the Hartford Public Library featuring poet John Hollander. One of the Connecticut Center for the Book's first projects will be a "Guide to Connecticut's Printers and Presses," an exhibition and publication project that will be developed in cooperation with the Connecticut State Library, the Connecticut Library Association, and the Southern Connecticut Library Reading Council.

During the May 5 meeting, Librarian of Congress Emeritus Daniel J. Boorstin presented the first two Boorstin Center for the Book Awards to the Florida and the Nebraska Centers for the Book. Each of the annual awards includes a cash prize of $5,000. The National Award, won by Florida, the first state center (1984), recognizes the contribution a state center has made to the Center for the Book's overall national program and objectives ("to stimulate public interest in books, reading and libraries.") The State Award, won by Nebraska, recognizes a specific project. In this case, the Nebraska Literature Festival, inaugurated by the Nebraska Center for the Book in 1990.

"I am enormously proud of the Center for the Book and its crucial role in promoting books and reading throughout America," said Dr. Boorstin, who created the center in 1977, early in his career (1975-1987) as Librarian of Congress. "My wife, Ruth, and I are delighted to provide financial support for the center's national program, and we invite others to join us through their tax-deductible gifts."

The discussions on May 5 were organized around two major topics: organizational issues such as staffing, advisory boards, fund-raising, relations with other organizations, Internet sites and programming.

Prior to the discussion, Mr. Cole spoke about the "state of the Center for the Book," emphasizing the continued growth of the state center program

(there currently are 32 state centers) and the strengthening of relationships in many states between state centers and state humanities councils. He also outlined the national center's plans for 1997 until 2000, briefly describing five projects in which state center participation was both needed and welcome. The projects are: "Building a Nation of Readers," the national reading promotion campaign; "Literary Heritage USA," which includes the development of literary maps and the recognition of literary sites; "Rivers of America," which examines and celebrates the literary, historical and environmental heritage of America's Rivers; "The Alphabet Project," which focuses on the importance of letters, language and design in promoting books and literacy; and "Libraries and American Culture," which encourages the historical study of libraries and their role in American intellectual, social, cultural and political life.

Pat Bates, coordinator of the Maryland Center for the Book, began the discussion of organizational issues by reporting on a survey regarding advisory boards, staffing, financial status and related matters that she had conducted among the state centers. The size of boards and staffs varies considerably, as do methods of operation. Seven state centers now have full-time coordinators and two of these states (Colorado and Vermont) have several paid staff members. Most states rely heavily on part-time help and volunteers. Nebraska recently held a "retreat" to help its volunteer board of officers sort out their roles and functions. Approximately half of the state centers have nonprofit, 501 (c)(3) status, and all of them are involved in fund-raising activities. Half of the state centers are located in state libraries. Seventeen of the centers now have Web sites.

John Cole explained the approval process for state centers. When its proposal is approved, a center is granted affiliate status for a three-year period. Renewals also are for three years.

The discussion about programming and projects was lively and informative, with each state center presenting highlights of its activities and often trying to enlist other states in specific projects. Book festivals, book awards and author and book discussion programs are especially popular program ideas. John Cole announced that the "Letters About Literature" student essay contest, in which 20 states participated last year, would be continued. Florida and Washington reported on the $15,000 "Audience for Literature" planning grants they had received from the Lila Wallace-Reader's Digest Fund. Consultant Virginia Mathews discussed early-childhood projects. Vermont presented a marketing proposal for its "Babies Need Books" campaign and on May 6 hosted a planning meeting for its "Mother Goose Asks Why?" science books for children project.

Jim Higgins

Marcie Kate of New Mexico (left) and Pat Marris of New Jersey look at some of the reading promotion materials on display.

Yusef El-Amin

Winston Tabb congratulates Director Jean Trebbi for the National Award won by the Florida Center for the Book.

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